

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE

## KIRKHAM URBAN DISTRICT,

FOR THE YEAR 1898,

BY

WILLIAM WRIGHT SHAW, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.,

Medical Officer of Health to the Kirkham Urban  
Sanitary Authority.



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KIRKHAM :

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KIRKHAM URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,**

FOR THE YEAR 1898.

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE KIRKHAM  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

THE ANNUAL REPORT for 1898, which I have the honour to present to you, is again satisfactory, for the freedom from sickness and epidemic which the town has enjoyed for several years past has been well maintained, and of 57 deaths registered, 33 were from general diseases, not including zymotic disease and chest affections.

*Phthisis.*—The deaths from Phthisis were 5, three of which were of strangers, who came to reside in your district already suffering from the disease. This gives two cases only, both adults working at dusty occupations. Considering the great attention being paid to the question of tuberculosis, and the legislation which will probably follow, this almost immunity from phthisis is a matter for congratulation.

*Enteric Fever.*—Eight cases of Typhoid were notified, and two deaths resulted. The want of the Isolation Hospital was greatly felt, for four of the cases were in one house, where adequate isolation was impossible,

Enteric Fever was prevalent throughout the country at this time; the old offensive privies, together with the prolonged drought, accounting for the outbreak with us.

These objectionable structures have, many of them, been remedied; 53 have been filled in and 2 converted into water-closets.

The working of the Vaccination Act will have been viewed by your Council with great concern. Some drastic measure will have to be adopted to counteract the mischief already done. As regards the population of your district, it is satisfactory to find that hitherto only two applications for exemption under the Conscience Clause have been made. No doubt the small-pox outbreak of 1893 was a practical lesson in this district of the protection afforded by vaccination.

I am pleased to record that this year a long felt want has been supplied. W. S. Hodgson, Esq., J.P., has generously presented to the town a piece of land for a recreation ground. This gift is one which will be greatly appreciated, for the providing of facilities for out-door exercise for the rising generation is a subject of serious consideration for all bodies who have the well-being and health of the community at heart.

There are 90 empty houses in the town, such as they are; many of them falling to ruins. There is no demand for house accommodation, new or old; and until some works start causing a demand, nothing will be done in the way of building.

The long-vexed question of pig keeping has been brought to a satisfactory termination by adopting a Bye-law fixing the distance from a dwelling house at which swine may be kept.



## VITAL STATISTICS.



The Population estimated to the middle of 1898 is 4,094.

The Area of the Urban District is 857 acres.

BIRTHS.—The Births registered were 122, giving a Birth-rate of 29 per 1,000 ; 59 were boys and 63 girls.

MARRIAGES.—The Marriages during the year were 118—

At the Parish Church	...	...	...	20
At the Roman Catholic Church	...	...	...	6
At the Congregational Church	...	...	...	2
At the Registrar's Office	...	...	...	90

The marriage rate per 1,000 of the population is 29.

DEATHS.—57 Deaths were registered ; in addition, there were 10 deaths in the Workhouse of persons belonging the Urban District, which brings the total to 67, and gives a death-rate of 16 per 1,000.

INFANTILE DEATH-RATE.—The Infantile Death-rate shows steady improvement, and is lower than for the past three years. 122 children were born, and only 14 died under twelve months old, giving a rate of 114 per 1,000.

ZYMOTIC DEATH-RATE.—Four deaths were registered from notifiable disease—1, Membranous Croup ; 2, Typhoid ; 1, Puerperal Fever. The Zymotic Death-rate is .9 per 1,000.

**Table showing Deaths per Quarter for past 5 years.**

Year.	1st Quarter.		2nd Quarter.		3rd Quarter.		4th Quarter.	
1894	...	31	...	16	...	11	...	18
1895	...	16	...	41	...	16	...	26
1896	...	19	...	14	...	16	...	20
1897	...	16	...	21	...	5	...	21
1898	...	14	...	14	...	13	...	16

Table showing Birth, Death, Zymotic and Infantile  
Death-rate for past 5 years.

Year.		Birth-rate.		Death-rate.		Zymotic Death-rate.		Infantile Death-rate.
1894	...	29·0	...	19·0	...	·7	...	84
1895	...	30·9	...	18·9	...	·7	...	190
1896	...	29·0	...	16·8	...	1·4	...	183
1897	...	30·1	...	12·9	...	Nil	...	153
1898	...	29·0	...	16·0	...	·9	...	114



# KIRKHAM URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.



Summary of Sanitary work done, and Report, for  
the year ending December 31st, 1898.

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.

Number of Notices given by Inspector	...	...	...	203
Notices to lime-wash and cleanse	...	...	...	29
Drains opened out, cleansed, and defects made good	...	...	...	110
Slopstone pipes disconnected from drains, and made to dis- charge over gullies	...	...	...	7
Privies improved and raised	...	...	...	53
Wet and offensive ash-pits put in order	...	...	...	30
Privies converted into water-closets	...	...	...	2
Nuisances arising from pigsties	...	...	...	16
Filthy back yards, &c., cleansed under notice	...	...	...	49
Fowls and wooden erections removed out of small back yards	...	...	...	13

## SPECIAL REPORT.

One special report on pig keeping.

## EMPTYING OF ASH-PITS.

Closets and ash-pits connected with dwelling-houses emptied and disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	293
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## BAKEHOUSES.

Inspected periodically. No complaints.

## COMMON LODGING-HOUSES,

Inspected at regular periods. Not over-crowded.

Notices to lime-wash	...	...	...	...	6
Number registered	...	...	...	...	2

## SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

Kept clean and well lime-washed. Offal and refuse removed at  
once.

**DAIRIES', COWSHEDS' AND MILK SHOPS' ORDER.**

Inspected regularly. Notice to lime-wash.

Total number registered	...	...	...	...	...	19
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**MARINE STORE DEALER.**

Inspected regularly,

**TRIPE MANUFACTURER.**

Duly inspected.

**DISEASES NOTIFIED.**

Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	8
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1
Membranous Croup	...	...	...	...	...	1

*C. W. THOMPSON,*

Sanitary Inspector.

**FYLDE UNION WORKHOUSE.**

The health of the Inmates of this Institution leaves nothing to be desired. This is owing to the clothing being suitable ; the food ample, varied and well cooked ; the only cases admitted into the Infirmary from the body of the house have been senile decay.

In the Infirmary, the nursing has been very satisfactory, although, at times, the work has been more than one nurse should be expected to perform.

The Deaths during the year were 35.

The Causes of Death were—Phthisis, 4 ; Bronchitis, 7 ; Heart Disease, 2 ; Senile Decay, 19 ; 3, infants under one year.

The cases were from the following localities :—Blackpool, 15 ; Kirkham, 10 ; Fleetwood, 4 ; Fylde Rural, 3 ; St. Anne's-on-the-Sea, 2 ; Lytham, 1.



During the year the following cases were under  
treatment in the Infirmary.

Midwifery .. .. 17	Alcoholism .. .. 2
Pneumonia .. .. 11	Gastritis .. .. 3
Acute Rheumatism .. .. 11	Brights Disease .. .. 2
Debility .. .. 9	Hysteria .. .. 1
Phthisis .. .. 4	Neuralgia .. .. 2
Bronchitis .. .. 20	Gonorrhœa .. .. 2
Syphilis .. .. 7	Senile Decay .. .. 9
Abcess .. .. 5	Sprained Ankle .. .. 5
Apoplexy .. .. 4	Hemorrhoids .. .. 1
Hernia .. .. 2	Scabies .. .. 1
Fracture—Ribs .. .. 2	Heart Disease .. .. 2
Hydatids of Liver .. .. 1	Purpura .. .. 1
Influenza .. .. 10	Cancer Uterus .. .. 3
Pruritis .. .. 1	Acute Nephritis .. .. 2
Incised Wounds .. .. 5	Peritonitis .. .. 1
Orchitis .. .. 1	Sciatica .. .. 1
Spinal Caries .. .. 1	Ringworm .. .. 1
Senile Gangrene .. .. 1	Varicose Veins .. .. 1
Hemorrhage .. .. 1	Operations .. .. 3
Chronic Rheumatism .. .. 3	Iritis .. .. 3
Synovitis .. .. 2	Quinsy .. .. 1
Spinal Sclerosis .. .. 2	Cancer of Eye-ball .. .. 1
Tuberculosis .. .. 1	Asthma .. .. 1
Gout .. .. 1	Anæmia .. .. 1
Lumbago .. .. 1	Concussion of Brain .. .. 1
Fistula in ano .. .. 1	
Pleurisy .. .. 3	
Diarrhœa .. .. 5	

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Appended are the tables furnished by the Local Government Board.

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**W. W. SHAW, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.,**

Medical Officer of Health.



(B) *TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1898, in the Urban Sanitary District of Kirkham, classified according to Diseases, Ages and Localities.*

NAMES of LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.	Population at all Ages.		Registered Births	Aged under 5 or over 5	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.													Number of such Cases Removed from their Homes in the several Localities for Treatment in Isolation Hospital.												
	Census 1891	Estimated to middle of 1898.			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
					Smallpox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Group	Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal	Cholera	Erysipelas				Smallpox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Group	Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal	Cholera	Erysipelas	
Kirkham Urban.	4003	4094	122	Under 5 ..... 5 upwds	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	8	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....		
Workhouse ....	—	—	—	Under 5 ..... 5 upwds	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....			
TOTALS .....	4003	4094	122	Under 5 ..... 5 upwds	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	8	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....			

“ Notification of Infectious Disease” has been compulsory in the District since February 1st, 1890. No Permanent Hospital for Isolation.

